

PETITION
OF
OFFICERS OF THE UNITED STATES ARMY IN MEXICO,

PRAYING

An amendment of the pension law for widows and orphans of officers and soldiers of the army.

DECEMBER 20, 1847.

Referred to the Committee on Military Affairs, and ordered to be printed.

NATIONAL PALACE,
Mexico, October 1, 1847.

SIR: I have the honor herewith to forward you a petition of the officers of the United States army, for an amendment of the pension law for widows and orphans of officers and soldiers of the army, and most respectfully to solicit your aid and your interest.

I would remark, that it is signed by almost every officer of the old army now serving in this part of Mexico. I would also call to your notice the melancholy fact, that many of the officers who have signed this petition have since gloriously fallen in the service of their country, leaving destitute widows and helpless orphans; and, being dead, they now emphatically speak, saying "We have offered up our lives to our country, and we now call upon her to provide a decent competence for our bereaved widows and fatherless children."

I have the honor to be, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

HARVEY BROWN,
Major U. S. Army.

Hon. THOMAS H. BENTON, *Senator.*

To the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America:

We, the undersigned, officers of the United States army, beg leave most respectfully to represent to your honorable bodies, that many of us are married, and have left wives and children at home dependent upon us; that we are constantly exposed to danger and sudden death, not only on the field of battle, but by exposure to unhealthy and deadly climates; and that in going to the fight, many of us have our hearts depressed by the melancholy conviction, that if we fall, our wives and children will be helplessly thrown on the cold charities of the world.

Tippin & Streeper, printers.

We most respectfully ask our country to give us the assurance, if we offer up our lives in her service, that she will provide for our destitute widows and orphans; and that she may do so, we humbly petition your honorable bodies to pass such a law as you, in your wisdom, shall deem just; as shall give to the wives and children of officers and soldiers dying in the service of their country, pensions during the natural life or widowhood of the wife, and during the minority of the children; and your petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever gratefully pray.

PUEBLA, MEXICO, *August 1, 1847.*

Without any desire of procuring for my own family any contingent benefit from the proposed change in the pension laws of the army, I entirely concur in the reasonableness of the foregoing petition, and can see no military or other objection to its being signed and presented.

WINFIELD SCOTT.

PUEBLA, *August 2, 1847.*

I approve the measure of placing the regular army on the same footing with the navy and volunteers.

J. A. QUITMAN,
Major General U. S. A.

W. J. Worth, Brevet Major General.
B. Riley, Brevet Colonel U. S. Army.
Geo. Cadwalader, Brigadier General U. S. Army.
James Shields, Brigadier General.
D. E. Twiggs, Brigadier General U. S. Army.
Wm. S. Harney, Colonel 2d Dragoons.
Gid. J. Pillow, Major General U. S. Army.
W. C. De Hart, Captain 2d regiment Artillery.
H. L. Scott, Captain 4th Infantry.
A. L. Majilton, Second Lieutenant 4th Artillery.
Persifer F. Smith, Brevet Brigadier General.
S. C. Ridgely, Captain 4th Artillery.
George W. Getty, Lieutenant 4th Artillery.
John L. Gardner, Major 4th Artillery.
Harvey Brown, Brevet Major 4th Artillery.
N. S. Clarke, Colonel 6th Infantry.
Th. Lawson, Surgeon General.
E. A. Hitchcock, Lieutenant Colonel 3d Infantry.
John L. Smith, Major Corps of Engineers.
S. H. Drum, Captain 4th Artillery.
Henry M. Judah, Second Lieutenant 1st Infantry.
F. J. Porter, Second Lieutenant 4th Artillery.
D. H. Hill, Lieutenant 4th Artillery.
J. P. McCown, First Lieutenant 4th Artillery.
J. W. Phelps, Lieutenant 4th Artillery.
E. Kirby, Paymaster U. S. Army.

Samuel L. Gouverneur, Lieutenant 4th Artillery.
A. C. Myers, Captain U. S. Army.
B. Randall, Surgeon U. S. Army.
A. Van Buren, U. S. Army.
James Simons, Assistant Surgeon U. S. Army.
Henry C. Wayne, Captain U. S. Army.
William Turnbull, Major Topographical Engineers.
Charles S. Tripler, Surgeon U. S. Army.
T. Morris, Captain 2d Infantry.
J. J. B. Kingsbury, Captain 2d Infantry.
J. R. Smith, Captain 2d Infantry.
S. Casey, Captain 2d Infantry.
James W. Penrose, Captain 2d Infantry.
H. W. Wessels, Captain 2d Infantry.
J. W. Anderson, Captain 2d Infantry.
D. Davidson, First Lieutenant 2d Infantry.
J. Hayden, First Lieutenant 2d Infantry.
B. P. Tilden, jr., First Lieut. 2d regiment U. S. Infantry.
N. Lyon, First Lieutenant 2d Infantry.
J. W. Schureman, Second Lieutenant 2d Infantry.
D. R. Jones, Second Lieutenant 2d Infantry.
T. Easby, Second Lieutenant 2d Infantry.
W. M. Gardner, Second Lieutenant 2d Infantry.
Charles E. Jarvis, Second Lieutenant 2d Infantry.
A. H. Davis, Second Lieutenant 2d Infantry.
Frederick Steele, Second Lieutenant 2d Infantry.
L. B. Tower, First Lieutenant of Engineers.
J. L. Mason, Captain of Engineers.
G. T. Beauregard, First Lieutenant of Engineers.
W. B. Blair, First Lieutenant 2d Artillery.
George Deas, A. A. G.
Francis Taylor, Captain 1st Artillery.
George Sykes, First Lieutenant 3d Infantry.
Martin Scott, Brevet Lieutenant Colonel U. S. Army.
D. H. McPhail, Captain 5th Infantry.
N. B. Rossell, First Lieutenant 5th Infantry.
S. H. Fowler, First Lieutenant 5th Infantry.
P. Lugenbeel, Adjutant 5th Infantry.
H. R. Selden, Second Lieutenant 5th Infantry.
F. T. Dent, Second Lieutenant 5th Infantry.
Wm. Roberts, Assistant Surgeon U. S. Army.
Wm. Chapman, Captain 5th Infantry.
M. Rosecrants, First Lieutenant 5th Infantry.
E. B. Strong, Second Lieutenant 5th Infantry.
M. E. Merrill, Captain 5th Infantry.
J. P. Smith, Second Lieutenant 5th Infantry.
H. Thorn, Second Lieutenant 2d Infantry.
John Garland, Brevet Colonel U. S. Army.
Francis Lee, Major 4th Infantry.
Henry Prince, First Lieutenant and Adjutant 4th Infantry.
John H. Gore, First Lieutenant 4th Infantry.
Jenks Beaman, First Lieutenant 4th Infantry.

Thomas R. McConnell, Second Lieutenant 4th Infantry.
J. R. Irwin, A. Q. M.
John B. Grayson, Captain and Commissary of Subsistence.
James Duncan, Brevet Lieutenant Colonel.
George Thom, Lieutenant Topographical Engineers.
W. T. H. Brooks, First Lieutenant 3d Infantry.
C. A. Waite, Major 8th Infantry.
J. Selden, First Lieutenant 8th Infantry.
Charles G. Merchant, Second Lieutenant 8th Infantry.
James G. S. Snelling, Second Lieutenant 8th Infantry.
R. B. Screven, Captain 8th regiment Infantry.
John D. Clark, First Lieutenant 8th Infantry.
H. L. Kendrick, Captain 2d Artillery.
L. G. Arnold, First Lieutenant 2d Artillery.
H. A. Allen, First Lieutenant 2d Artillery.
Jos. Swift Totten, Second Lieutenant 2d Artillery.
M. L. Shackelford, First Lieutenant 2d Artillery.
C. B. Daniels, First Lieutenant 2d Artillery.
Charles C. Keeney, Assistant Surgeon, U. S. A.
A. W. Bowman, First Lieutenant 3d Infantry.
James M. Smith, Captain 3d Infantry.
L. S. Craig, Captain 3d Infantry.
J. B. Richardson, First Lieut. 3d regiment U. S. Infantry.
J. Van Horn, Captain 3d Infantry.
B. E. Bee, Second Lieutenant 3d Infantry.
O. L. Shepherd, First Lieutenant 3d Infantry.
Wm. B. Johns, First Lieutenant 3d Infantry.
D. C. Buell, Adjutant 3d Infantry.
George Nauman, Captain 1st Artillery.
H. H. Steiner, Assistant Surgeon.
Henry Copper, Second Lieutenant 1st Artillery.
S. K. Dawson, First Lieutenant 1st Artillery.
E. A. Capron, Captain 1st Artillery.
M. J. Burke, Captain 1st Artillery.
T. Seymour, Second Lieutenant 1st Artillery.
H. D. Grafton, First Lieutenant 1st Artillery.
W. W. Loring, Major regiment M. Rifles.
G. B. Crittenden, Captain R. M. R.
J. B. Backenstos, Captain R. M. R.
George M. Lane, Lieutenant R. M. R.
G. Granger, Lieutenant Rifles.
J. P. Hatch, Second Lieutenant R. M. R.
D. M. Frost, Second Lieutenant M. Rifles.
Alfred Gibbs, Lieutenant R. M. Rifles.
M. E. Van Buren, Lieutenant R. M. R.
J. N. Palmer, Lieutenant R. M. R.
A. T. Suter, Assistant Surgeon U. S. Army.
Llewellyn Jones, Lieutenant Mounted Rifles.
F. S. K. Russell, Second Lieutenant M. Rifles.
Stephen S. Tucker, Captain K. C. R. M. R.
J. Frazier Head, Assistant Surgeon U. S. Army.
Gus. W. Smith, Lieutenant U. S. Engineers.

A. P. Howe, Adjutant 4th Artillery.
J. Plympton, Lieutenant Colonel 7th Infantry.
H. Bainbridge, Major 7th Infantry.
S. B. Maxcy, Second Lieutenant 7th Infantry.
F. Gardner, Brevet First Lieut. and Adjutant 7th Infantry.
Edmund K. Smith, Second Lieutenant 7th Infantry.
Wm. H. Tyler, Second Lieutenant 7th Infantry.
G. R. Paul, Captain 7th Infantry.
C. Hanson, Captain 7th Infantry.
Thomas Henry, Second Lieutenant 7th Infantry.
Henry Little, First Lieutenant 7th Infantry.
R. H. Ross, Captain 7th Infantry.
L. Gantt, First Lieutenant 7th Infantry.
S. B. Hayman, First Lieutenant 7th Infantry.
John C. Henshaw, Captain 7th Infantry.
C. Benjamin, First Lieutenant 4th Artillery.
B. L. E. Bonneville, Major 6th Infantry.
L. A. Armistead, First Lieutenant 6th Infantry.
J. D. Bacon, First Lieutenant 6th Infantry.
Edward H. Fitzgerald, First Lieutenant 6th Infantry.
D. Ruggles, Captain 5th Infantry.
George Edwards, Second Lieutenant 2d Artillery.
M. D. L. Simpson, Second Lieutenant 2d Artillery.
John J. Peck, First Lieutenant 2d Artillery.
E. Kirby Smith, Captain 5th Infantry.
C. F. Smith, Brevet Lieutenant Colonel 2d Artillery.
J. V. D. Reeve, Captain 8th Infantry.
E. B. Holloway, Second Lieutenant 8th Infantry.
L. G. Pitcher, Second Lieutenant 8th Infantry.
Robert C. Buchanan, Brevet Major 4th Infantry.
G. O. Haller, First Lieutenant 4th Infantry.
U. S. Grant, Second Lieutenant 4th Infantry.
De L. Floyd Jones, Second Lieutenant 4th Infantry.
Sid. Smith, First Lieutenant 4th Infantry.
A. P. Rogers, Second Lieutenant 4th Infantry.
W. A. Nichols, Br. Captain U. S. Army and Adj. 2d Art'y.
William Armstrong, First Lieut. 2d Artillery and A. Q. M.
Larkin Smith, Captain 8th Infantry.
J. G. Burbank, First Lieutenant 8th Infantry.
C. D. Jordan, First Lieutenant 8th Infantry.
J. Beardsley, First Lieutenant 8th Infantry.
C. R. Gates, Captain 8th Infantry.
J. V. Bomford, Captain 8th Infantry.
G. Wright, Brevet Major 8th Infantry.
W. R. Montgomery, Brevet Major U. S. Army.
C. F. Morris, First Lieutenant 8th Infantry.
P. H. Galt, Major 2d Artillery.
S. Mackenzie, Captain 2d Artillery.
Horace Brooks, Captain 2d Artillery.
E. B. Alexander, Captain 3d Infantry.
D. T. Chandler, Captain 3d Infantry.
J. N. J. Whistler, Second Lieutenant 3d Infantry.

John D. Wilkins, Second Lieutenant 3d Infantry.
W. H. Wood, Second Lieutenant 3d Infantry.
Wm. O. Sullivan, Second Lieutenant 3d Infantry.
A. J. Williamson, First Lieutenant 3d Infantry.
H. B. Schroeder, Second Lieutenant 3d Infantry.
H. B. Clitz, Second Lieutenant 3d Infantry.
S. D. Dobbins, Captain 3d Infantry.
J. A. Haskin, First Lieutenant 1st Artillery.
S. Hoffman, Second Lieutenant 1st Artillery.
John M. Brannan, First Lieutenant 1st Artillery.
John B. Gibson, Second Lieutenant 1st Artillery.
J. S. Hathaway, Captain 1st Artillery.
John H. Winder, Captain 1st Artillery.
J. Dimick, Brevet Major 1st Artillery.
John S. Simonson, regiment M. R.
B. S. Roberts, Captain Rifles.
R. Murray Morris, 2d Lieut. regiment Mounted Rifles.
Andrew Porter, Captain U. S. Rifles.
Jno. M. Cuyler, Surgeon U. S. Army.
George C. Westcott, First Lieutenant 2d Infantry, A. Q. M.
Edward R. S. Canby, A. A. G. U. S. Army.
E. V. Sumner, Major 2d Dragoons.
J. Oakes, Brevet Second Lieutenant 2d Dragoons.
H. W. Merrill, Captain 2d Dragoons.
S. B. Thornton, Captain 2d Dragoons.
Wm. D. Smithe, Lieutenant 2d Dragoons.
Thomas S. Carter, 1st Dragoons.
A. D. Tree, Second Lieutenant 2d Dragoons.
George A. H. Blake, Captain 2d Dragoons.
J. M. Hawes, Second Lieutenant 2d Dragoons.
George B. McClellan, Second Lieutenant U. S. Engineers.
John G. Foster, U. S. Engineers.
George H. Gordon, Lieutenant regiment Mounted Riflemen.
Owen Chapman, Lieutenant 1st Dragoons.
F. Collins, Lieutenant 4th Artillery.
Benjamin Huger, Captain of Ordnance.
Charles P. Stone, Second Lieutenant of Ordnance.

